

680 Kensington Road

1774

Asahel Cowles (1738-1807), Revolutionary War

1st wife Ester Hooker (1731-1757)

2nd wife Rachel Bell (1736-1797)

1934 WPA Census of Old Buildings in Connecticut Survey at the Connecticut State Library Digital Collection. Slide #14

1774 Asahel Cowles Kensington current owner Henry F Cornwell 680 Kensington Road

West side of Kensington Street; third house from Norton Road
Wood house, peak roof, new central brick chimney, two stories and a half, stone foundation
No photo 1934

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

1776 Asahel Cowles current owner: Henry Cornwell estate Kensington Road

1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 070

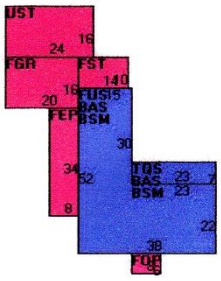
1775 Dean Angus farm current owner: Dean Petow

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1774 current owner: Dean Petow & Judith Reeve



Sketch



At one time Merritt Cowles owned this property. (See 40 Four Rod Road for more info)

Genealogy

Asahel Cowles (1728-1807) was the son of Samuel Cowles & Sarah Wadsworth. In 1751 he married Ester Hooker (1731-1757) and had two sons: Samuel and Jabez. He married 2nd to Rachel Bell (1736-1797). They had several children including: Esther, Selina, Sarah & Lydia. They were members of the Kensington Congregational Church. They are buried in Ledge Cemetery.

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#070

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Town No.: | Site No.:
UTM
QUAD:
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR | IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common): Dean Angus Farm (Historic):
2. TOWN CITY: Berlin | VILLAGE: Kensington | COUNTY: Hartford
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 680 Kensington Road 15-1/69/33
4. OWNER(S): Petow, Dean A. " " Petow, Olga, est. Reve, Judith P co-execs. Kensington ☐ Public ☒ Private
5. USE (Present): Residence (Historic): Residence
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No | INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Vernacular | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1775
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☐ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☐ Other (Specify) _____
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☒ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: _____ ☐ Cut stone Type: _____
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other (Specify) _____
10. ROOF (Type)
☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify) _____
(Material)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street
☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☐ Ridge parallel to the street
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 38' x 29'
12. CONDITION (Structural): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated (External): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY (Location): ☒ On original site ☐ Moved | WHEN ? | (Alterations): ☒ Yes ☐ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN: Gothic alterations, modern siding
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☒ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☒ Scattered buildings visible from site
☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☒ Rural ☐ High building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
In lightly settled area south of Kensington center.

#70

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (Interior and/or exterior)

This house has a five-bay facade with a central entry protected by a gable-roofed Victorian porch. The porch rests on square posts and has spandrels forming a semi-circular opening. Most windows are fitted with 6-over-6 sash and modern storm sash; facade windows are paired and offset towards the corners of the house; second-floor windows are located high under the eaves. Centered above the entry is a gabled wall dormer with a pointed-arched attic window and a slight overhang. There are hewn overhangs at the second floor and in the gable ends. Pointed-arched attic lights are also found in the gable ends. A glassed-in porch and a modern garage have been added to the left elevation; to the rear is a cross-gabled wing. An early 20th-century barn with two hip-roofed cupolas is located on the property.

SIGNIFICANCE

18. ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

Although much of its fabric is currently obscured by modern siding and storm sash, this house is significant as an 18th-century central-chimney house with Victorian Gothic alterations. The basic plan and massing of the house reflect its 18th-century origins. The hewn overhangs, ridge-parallel orientation, paired facade windows, and the location of the second-floor windows are also typical 18th-century features. The front wall dormer, pointed-arched attic lights, and gabled entry porch all illustrate the use of medieval details in the Gothic Revival architecture of the Victorian era. Although such details may be seen as detracting from the integrity of the original 18th-century house, they are significant in their own right as evidence of evolving architectural taste.

(continued)

SOURCES

1855 Atlas
1869 Atlas

PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER: HRC
DATE: 11/84
VIEW: W
NEGATIVE ON FILE: Hl



COMPILED BY

NAME: Historic Resource Consultants
DATE: 12/84
ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory
ADDRESS: 55 Van Dyke Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

Dean Angus Farm

19. (continued):

Little could be discovered about the early history of the house. In the 19th century, it was owned by the Cowles family, an influential clan with substantial land-holdings in many of the towns set off from Farmington.



Town of Berlin, CT

Property Listing Report | Map Block Lot 14-2-69-33 | Account 1050820

Valuation Summary (Assessed value = 70% of Appraised Value)

Item	Appraised	Assessed
Buildings	136200	95300
Extras	0	0
Improvements	191700	134200
Outbuildings	55500	38900
Land	3347700	117795
Total	3539400	251995

Sub Areas

Subarea Type	Gross Area (sq ft)	Living Area (sq ft)
Upper Story, Finished	1286	1286
Garage, Attached	320	0
Basement	1447	0
Porch, Open, Finished	48	0
Utility, Finished	140	0
Porch, Enclosed, Finished	272	0
First Floor	1447	1447
Utility, Storage, Unfinished	384	0
Three Quarter Story,80%	161	129

Outbuilding and Extra Features

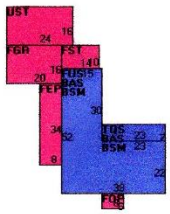
Type	Description
Barn 1 Story	1560 S.F.
Shed Wd Res	196 S.F.
Shed Wd Res	288 S.F.
Shed Wd Res	648 S.F.
Barn 1 Story	1360 S.F.
Pole Barn	4000 S.F.
Pole Barn	819 S.F.

Sales History

Owner of Record	Book/ Page	Sale Date	Sale Price
PETOW DEAN SR (EST) & REEVE JUDITH	650/1136	6/8/2011	0
PETOW DEAN SR (EST) & REEVE JUDITH	0610/0452	11/14/2008	0
PETOW,DEAN,A,	294/ 826	6/30/1989	0

Street Index	7
Acreage	136.5
Utilities	All Public
Lot Setting/Desc	Level,Rolling
Additional Info	

Sketch



Primary Construction Details

Year Built	1774
Stories	2
Building Style	Colonial
Building Use	Residential
Building Condition	P
Interior Floors 1	Hardwood
Interior Floors 2	
Whirlpool Tub	
Total Rooms	11
Basement Garages	

Bedrooms	4 Bedrooms
Full Bathrooms	2
Half Bathrooms	0
Extra Fixtures	
Bath Style	Average
Kitchen Style	Average
Roof Style	Gable
Roof Cover	Asph/F Gls/Cmp
Fireplaces	3
AC TYPE	None

Exterior Walls	Vinyl Siding
Exterior Walls 2	AluminumSiding
Interior Walls	Drywall
Interior Walls 2	
Heating Type	Hot Water
Heating Fuel	Gas/Oil
Fin Basement Area	
Fin BSMT Quality	
Fin BSMT Area 2	
Fin BSMT Quality 2	